

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 04229 031750Z

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SY-03 SCA-01

SCCT-02 USSS-00 DRC-01 /064 W
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R 031733Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9306

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 04229

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, UK

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - AIRPORT SECURITY

REF: STATE 56705

1. DEPT. OF TRADE OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR AVIATION SECURITY IN UK (LEDSOME, ASST. SECRETARY) HAS INDICATED THAT UK WOULD WELCOME VISIT BY FAA TEAM OF SECURITY EXPERTS TO LONDON FOR DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING ANTI-HIJACKING AND AIRPORT SECURITY TECHNIQUES. LEDSOME SUGGESTED THAT FAA TEAM PROPOSE POSSIBLE DATES WHEN SUCH A VISIT MIGHT BE CONVENIENT.

2. LEDSOME ALSO TOLD US THAT HE HAS ASKED UK EMBASSY WASHINGTON TO SET-UP VISIT NEAR END OF MAY FOR UK AVIATION SECURITY EXPERT TO SEE FAA SECURITY TRAINING PROGRAM AT OKLAHOMA CITY, TO INSPECT SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS AT SEVERAL U.S. AIRPORTS AND TO CHECK ON SECURITY PROCEDURES USED BY BRITISH AIRLINES AT U.S. AIRPORTS. UK EMBASSY HAS NOT YET RESPONDED TO LEDSOME'S REQUEST.

3. WE WOULD LIKE TO STRESS TO WASHINGTON AGENCIES THAT FOR REASONS EXPLAINED PARA 2, LONDON 2910, WE HAVE NOT REPEAT NOT SPECIFICALLY TAKEN UP WITH BRITISH AUTHORITIES SECURITY GAPS THAT WE OBSERVED AT HEATHROW AIRPORT. IN
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PAGE 02 LONDON 04229 031750Z

OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH LEDSOME, WE SUGGESTED THAT FAA TEAM

OF SECURITY EXPERTS COULD VISIT UK FOR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS
THAT WOULD BE MUTUALLY PROFITABLE. ALTHOUGH BRITISH
LIKELY TO BE SENSITIVE TO CRITICISM ON SECURITY MEASURES
BY EMBASSY NON-EXPERTS, WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THEY WILL
BE RECEPTIVE TOWARD CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVE-
MENTS FROM QUALIFIED U.S. SECURITY EXPERTS. ACCORDINGLY,
WE WOULD URGE THAT FAA REACT PROMPTLY TO PROPOSAL AND
OFFER EARLY DATES FOR VISIT.

SOHM

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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